made a demand to allow it to increase working capital and authorised capital and to convert Government loans into eqiety etc. These demands of the corporation were considered genuine and it was provided only Rs. 6 crore. But if we look at all the scheme and proposals of this corporation is requirement is that of Rs. 1 Arab. Now only Rs. 6 crore have been approved, whether it will not affect its efficiency and if so, would you consider to sanctioning more funds for it.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKHLA: As I said, their immediate need has been met. So their work will not stop. But as regards other demands made by him to strengthen the financial position of the corporation, I would like to say that these are big demands and will have bearing on our financial position as a whole. That is why a decision will be taken after giving if a full thought.

As far as the scheme of Bihar are concerned, I would like to give assurance to the hon. Members that if we consider these schemes it will not affect the N.C.C. works being carried out in Bihar.

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Is it a fact that Ninety percent projects have not been completed within the stipulated time? The projects are generally delayed as a result of which their cost of construction escalates. Will the Government try to check it and complete within scheduled time?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKHLA: This is correct that many project are not completed within the prescribed time, which causes loss to the nation. We try our best to complete the projects in time with the help of the State and Central Government. At times this is possible, but most of the time it is not possible. It shall be our continuous endeayour that whatever projects we take up in hand should be completed within the prescribed time so that the loss is avoided.

[*English*]

Telephone Charges

*357. KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the net profit earned from telephone during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to reduce telephone charges to enable the poor to avail of telephone facilities;

(c) if so, details in this regard?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The net profit i.e., surplus earned by the Department of Telecommunication from various Telecom Services during the last three years is as under:

Year	*Amount of surplus (In Crores of Rs.)*
1988-89 -	822.87
1989-90 -	1058.03
1990-91 -	1327.57

(b) There is no proposal to reduce the charges.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of immense pleasure that they have earned profit. I would like to ask the Government whether it would untilise this amounts of profit in reducing the telephone charges to in removing the complaints or in increasing the facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): The hon. Member has given her views. This department untilises its profits on these lines. If you go through it in detail, you will find that our expenditure supposes our income in the villages. It involves a lot of expenditure on giving telephone lines to each and every village. Keeping this fact in view that unless villages are developed the country cannot be developed. In the 8th Five Year Plan, we have aimed at providing one P. C. O. to each Panchayat in the country, by 31st March, 1995. In this way all this profit will be utilized in providing better facilities.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: My second question arises out of the hon. Minister's statement that Government's endeavour is to provide telephone facility at all places. Most of the telephone in the villages remain dead, they are always out of order. In that connection, the second part of the question is that the facility of telephone which you are going to provided to the villages or which you have already provided generally exists in the house where post offices are located. It may happen that some of the village people may not have good relations with the person in whose house the telephone is installed. In that case those people do not want to go to this house even in emergency or in dire need. Whey you are already making profit is it not possible to provide a telephone booth in the village instead of installing it in a house where post office is located and the time by which the Government proposes to provide telephone facility to the remaining villages.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: It is true that is takes time to put the telephone back in order, if it goes out of order in rural areas. We have introduced new wireless based technology to avoid such situations.

I myself visited 2-3 States. This has proved very successful. In the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh in a village of Baranki one villager talked to his son in Paris, on P. C. C. There is some difference in the facility. As far as the expansion in village areas is concerned, we are trying to link 100 villages everyday. We hope that we shall get success in this work. As far as the question of selecting place for installing the telephone is concerned. I would like to tell her that generally the officials go to the villages and ask the people where do they like it be installed and which is the most convenient place for them. If it is installed in the house of the Sarpanch or the Pradhan then there also exists two blocks - one pro and the other against. More or less, the villagers are consulted before installing the telephone. They are also told that this facility is not such that would yield a lot of profit to them. Person desirous of making call can come at any time. He can come at 12. O'Clock or can disturb at 2A.M. Out of all the earning, they are given a profit of 20%. The person at whose place the telephone is installed is given 20% of the total earning as commission. It is there in my mind that booths should be installed at common places but it is a matter of great sorrow that if they are installed at an uncommon place then neither there will be the instruments nor any person to look after it. Demand has been made in the villages that more and telephone connections should be provided. We hope that if our financial condition improves, then when the exchange is opened over there, then the demand which they are making for 20 telephones shall be met by us. If this is done then the concern expressed by the hon. Members that if the telephone is installed at a particular person's house, everyone may not like to go there, to make telephone will be removed.

KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Telephone is becoming the root of contention in each village. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The question hour is over. Do not ask any question now.